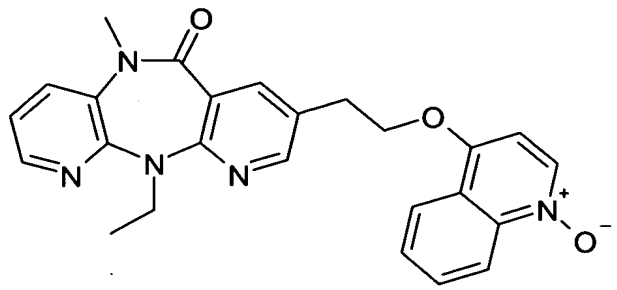
What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating HIV-1 infection in a human suffering from HIV-1 infection, which method comprises co-administering a compound of the formula I



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and one or more inhibitors of CYP 450, the latter being administered in an amount which is sufficient to reduce the metabolism of the compound of the formula I by CYP 450 by at least half.

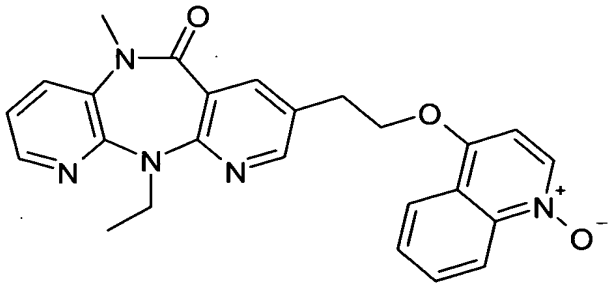
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the amount of the compound of the formula I administered is rendered therapeutically effective by the co-administration of the inhibitor or inhibitors of CYP450.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the metabolism by CYP 450 of the compound of the formula I administered is reduced by at least half by the co-administration of the inhibitor of CYP 450.

4. The method of claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the inhibitor of CYP 450 is selected from the group consisting of amprenavir, atazanavir, clarithromycin, cyclosporin, diltiazem, erythromycin, itraconazole, indinavir, ketoconazole, mibefradil, nefazodone, nelfinavir, ritonavir, vitamin E, bergamottin, dihydroxybergamottin and grapefruit juice.

5. The method of claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the inhibitor of CYP 450 is ritonavir.

6. A method for improving the pharmacokinetics of the compound of the formula I



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, comprising administering to a human in need of such treatment a combination of the compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and ritonavir or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

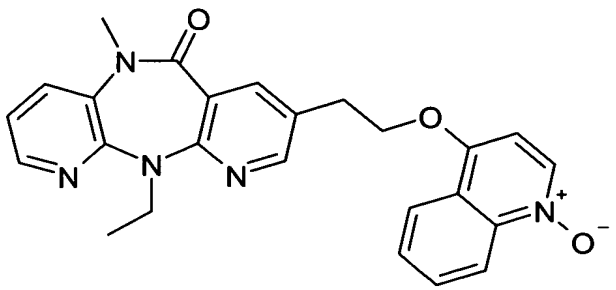
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the amount of the compound of formula I is between about 50 mg and about 3000 mg, and the amount of ritonavir is between about 30 mg and about 1000 mg.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the amount of the compound of formula I is between about 50 and about 500 mg, and the amount of ritonavir is between about 30 and about 500 mg.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the amount of the compound of formula I is between about 50 and about 300 mg, and the amount of ritonavir is between about 30 and about 300 mg.

10. The method of claim 6, wherein the amount of the compound of formula I is between about 100 and about 300 mg, and the amount of ritonavir is between about 30 and about 200 mg.

11. A method for increasing human blood levels of the compound of the formula I



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, comprising administering to a human in need of such treatment a combination the compound of the formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and ritonavir or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the amount of the compound of the formula I is between about 200 mg and about 6750 mg, and the amount of ritonavir is between about 30 mg and about 1000 mg.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the amount of the compound of the formula I is between about 50 and about 3000 mg, and the amount of ritonavir is between about 30 and about 1000 mg.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the amount of the compound of the formula I is between about 50 and about 500 mg, and the amount of ritonavir is between about 30 and about 500 mg.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein the amount of the compound of the formula I is between about 100 and about 300 mg, and the amount of ritonavir is between about 30 and about 200 mg.